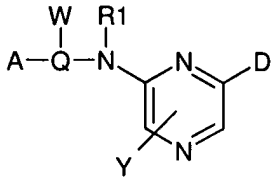
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

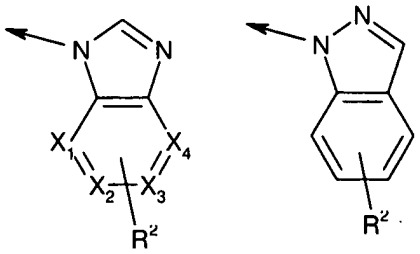
1. (currently amended): A compound of formula (I)



I

wherein:

D is a heterocyclic ring selected from:



where X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4 are optionally substituted carbon, or one of X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4 is nitrogen and the rest optionally substituted carbon;

R^2 is 0-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, CF_3, OCF_3, $OCHF_2$, CN, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-4} alkylOH, C_{1-4}alkylNR^{3}R^4, C_{1-4}alkylhetaryl, OC_{1-4} alkyl, OC_{1-4}alkylNR^{3}R^4, OC_{1-4}alkylhetaryl, OC_{1-4} alkylOH, CO_2R^3, CONR^{3}R^4, NR^{3}R^4, nitro, NR^{3}COR^4, NR^{5}CONR^{3}R^4, NR^{3}SO$_2$R^4, C_{1-4}alkylNR^{3}COR^4, C_{1-4}alkylNR^{5}CONR^{3}R^4 and C_{1-4}alkylNR^{3}SO$_2$R^4;

R^3[[,]] and R^4 are each independently H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylOH, C_{1-4}alkylNR^{19}R^{20}, C_{1-4} alkyl cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cyclohetalkyl, aryl, C_{1-4} alkylaryl, hetaryl, or C_{1-4} alkylhetaryl, or may be joined to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered (saturated or unsaturated) ring optionally containing an atom selected from O, S and NR^6;

and R^5 is H, C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl or hetaryl;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylNR^{19}R^{20}, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-4} alkyl aryl and C_{1-4} alkyl hetaryl;

R^{19}[[,]] and R^{20} are each independently H or C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^1 is H, C_{1-4} alkyl, [[C_{1-6}]]C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, or may form a 5-8 membered ring onto the ortho position of ring A;

A is aryl or hetaryl optionally substituted with 0-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, CF_3, OCF_3, CN, NR^8R^9, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-4} alkylNR^8R^9, OC_{1-4} alkylNR^8R^9, nitro, $NR^{10}C_{1-4}NR^8R^9$, NR^8COR^9, $NR^{10}CONR^8R^9$, $NR^8SO_2R^9$, $CONR^8R^9$ and CO_2R^8;

R^8 and R^9 are each independently H, C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl or together form an optionally substituted 4-8 membered ring which may contain a heteroatom selected from O, S and NR^{11};

R^{10} is H or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^{11} is H or C_{1-4} alkyl; and

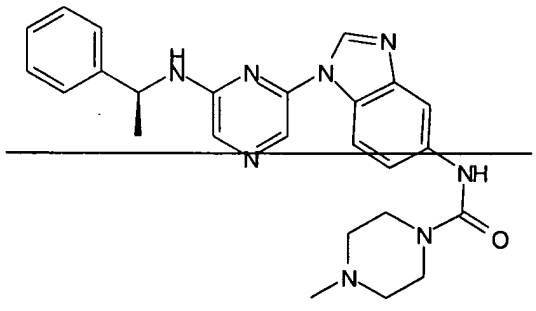
either Q is C_{1-4} alkylene; and W is H, C_{1-4}alkyl, or C_{2-6}alkenyl or may form a 5-8 membered ring onto the ortho position of ring A; where C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{2-6}alkenyl may be optionally substituted with C_{1-4}alkyl, OH, OC_{1-4}alkyl or $NR^{12}R^{13}$; R^{12} and R^{13} are each independently H, C_{1-4}alkyl, or may be joined to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered ring optionally containing an atom selected from O, S and NR^{14}; R^{14} is H or C_{1-4} alkyl; or

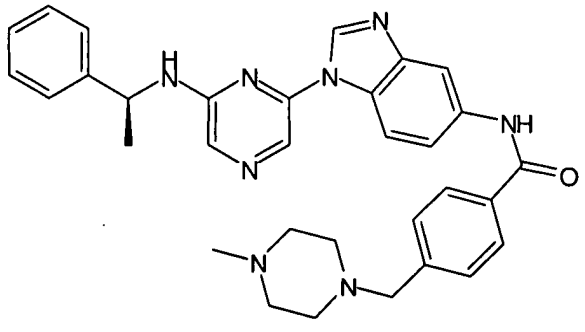
Q and W are absent;

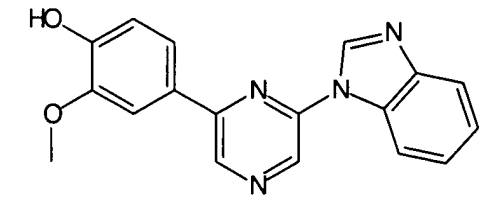
Y is 0-2 substituents selected from H, C_{1-4} alkyl, $NR^{15}R^{16}$;

R^{15} and R^{16} are independently H or C_{1-4}alkyl; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or diastereomers thereof; or

a compound selected from a group consisting of:



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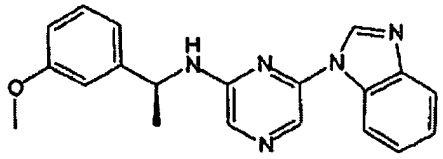
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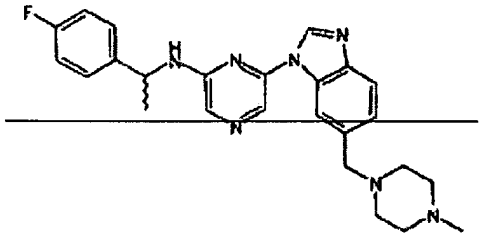
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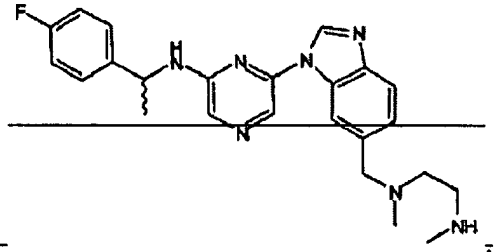
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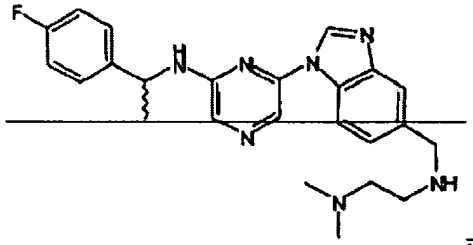
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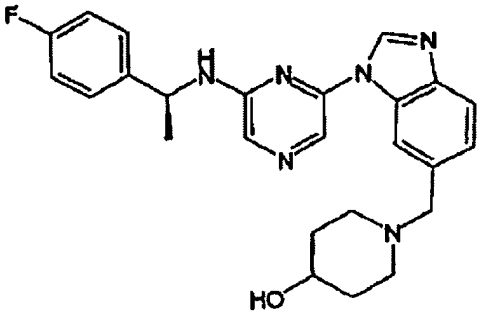
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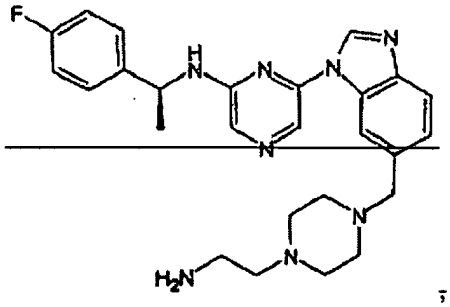
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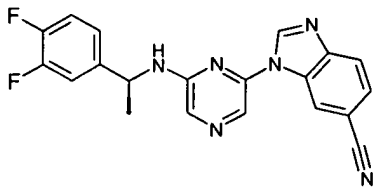
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, or diastereomers thereof[[.]]; or

a compound selected from: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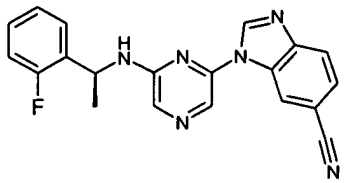
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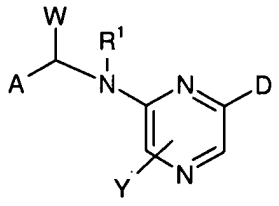
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or diastereomer thereof.

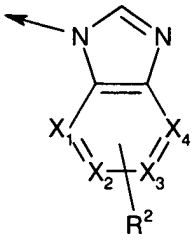
2. (currently amended): A compound according to formula (I) of claim 1, wherein the compound is of formula (II):



II

wherein:

D is a heterocyclic ring of the formula:



where X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4 are optionally substituted carbon, or one of X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4 is N and the rest optionally substituted carbon;

R^2 is 0-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, CF_3, OCF_3, $OCHF_2$, CN, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-4} alkylOH, C_{1-4}alkylNR^3R^4, C_{1-4}alkylhetaryl, OC_{1-4} alkyl, OC_{1-4}alkylNR^3R^4, OC_{1-4}alkylhetaryl, OC_{1-4} alkylOH, CO_2R^3, $CONR^3R^4$, NR^3R^4, nitro, NR^3COR^4, $NR^5CONR^3R^4$, $NR^3SO_2R^4$, C_{1-4}alkylNR^3COR^4, C_{1-4}alkyl$NR^5CONR^3R^4$ and C_{1-4}alkyl$NR^3SO_2R^4$;

R^3[[,]] and R^4 are each independently H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylOH, C_{1-4}alkyl$NR^{19}R^{20}$, C_{1-4} alkyl cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cyclohetalkyl, aryl, C_{1-4} alkylaryl, hetaryl, or C_{1-4} alkylhetaryl, or may be joined to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered (saturated or unsaturated) ring optionally containing an atom selected from O, S and NR^6;

and R^5 is H, C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl or hetaryl;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl$NR^{19}R^{20}$, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-4} alkyl aryl, and C_{1-4} alkyl hetaryl;

R^{19}[[,]] and R^{20} are each independently H or C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^1 is H, C_{1-4} alkyl, [[C_{1-6}]]C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, or may form a 5-8 membered ring onto the ortho position of ring A;

A is aryl, or hetaryl optionally substituted with 0-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, CF_3, OCF_3, CN, NR^8R^9, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-4} alkylNR^8R^9, OC_{1-4} alkylNR^8R^9, nitro, $NR^{10}C_{1-4}NR^8R^9$, NR^8COR^9, $NR^{10}CONR^8R^9$, $NR^8SO_2R^9$, $CONR^8R^9$ and CO_2R^8;

R^8 and R^9 are each independently H, C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl or together form an optionally substituted 4-8 membered ring which may contain a heteroatom selected from O, S and NR^{11};

R^{10} is H or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^{11} is H or C_{1-4} alkyl;

W is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-4}alkyl, and C_{2-6}alkenyl or may form a 5-8 membered ring onto the ortho position of ring A; where C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{2-6}alkenyl may be optionally substituted with C_{1-4}alkyl, OH, OC_{1-4}alkyl and $NR^{12}R^{13}$;

R^{12} and R^{13} are each independently H, C_{1-4}alkyl, or may be joined to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered ring optionally containing an atom selected from O, S and NR^{14};

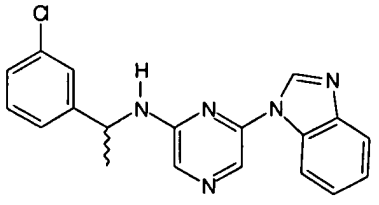
R^{14} is H or C_{1-4} alkyl;

Y is 0-2 substituents selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-4} alkyl and $NR^{15}R^{16}$;

R^{15} and R^{16} are independently H or C_{1-4}alkyl; ~~and~~ or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or diastereomer thereof.

3. (previously presented): A compound selected from the group consisting of:



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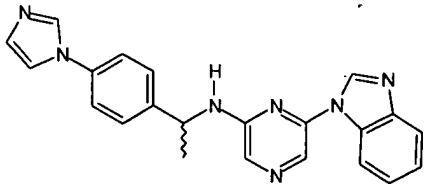

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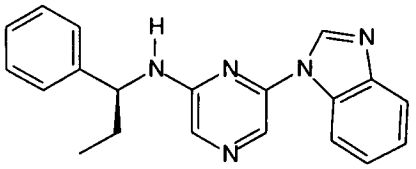
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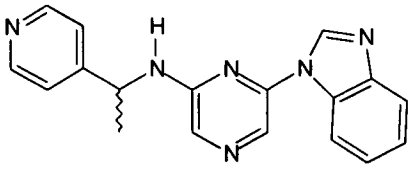
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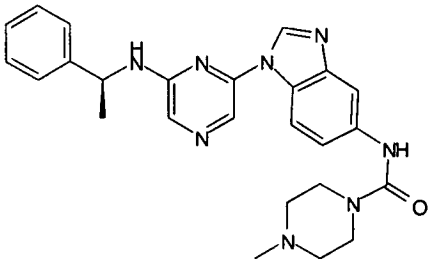
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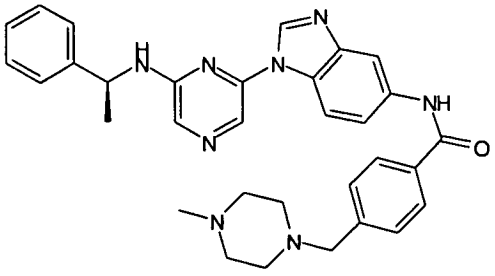
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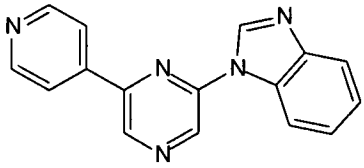
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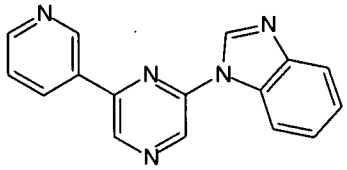
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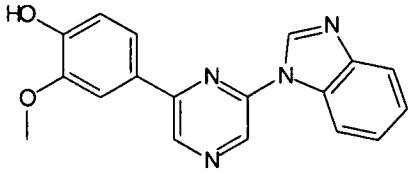
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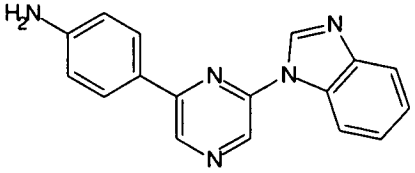
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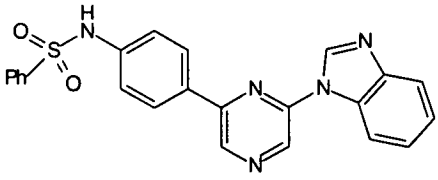
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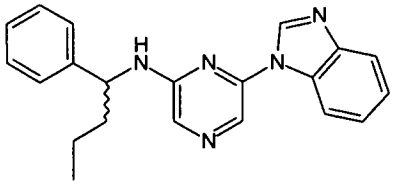
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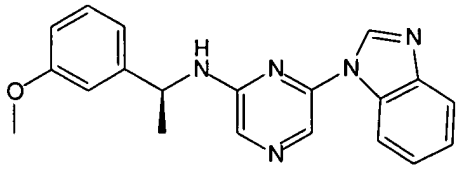
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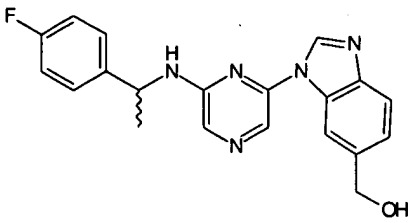
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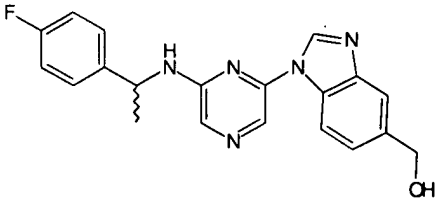
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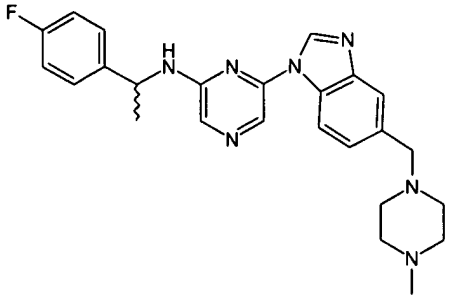
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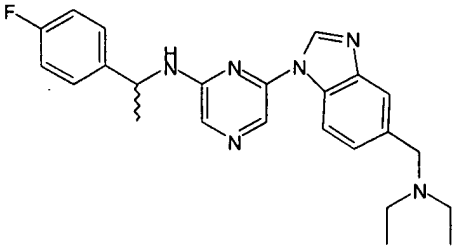
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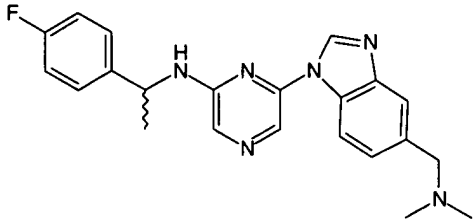
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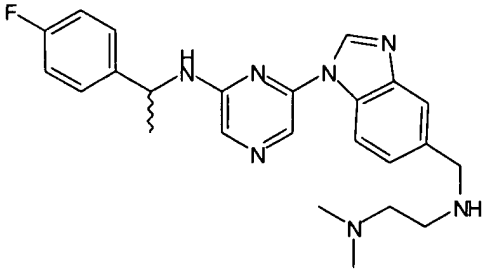
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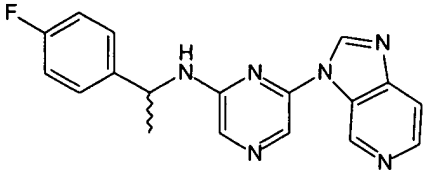
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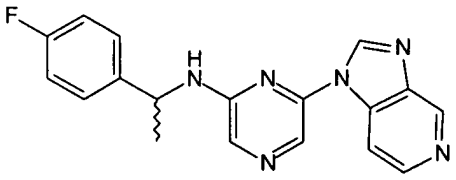

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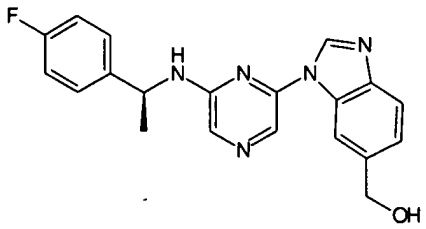

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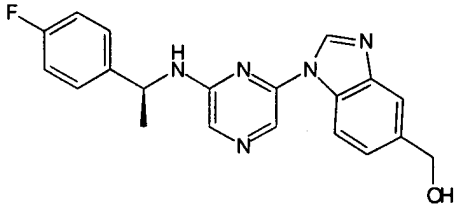

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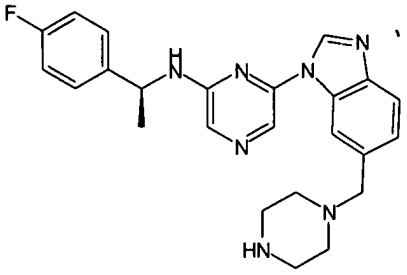

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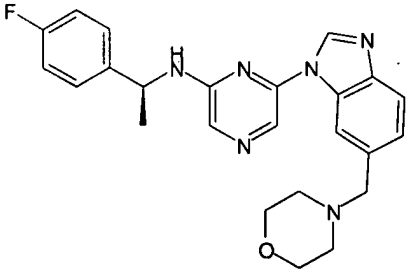

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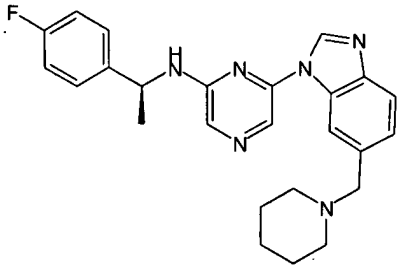

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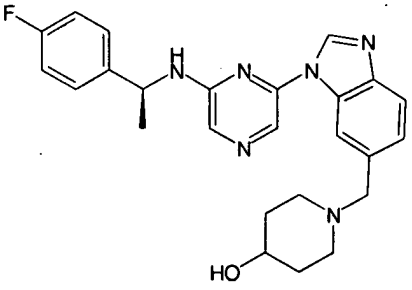

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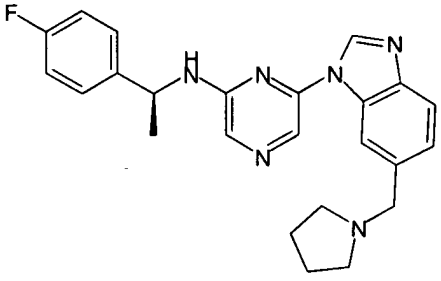

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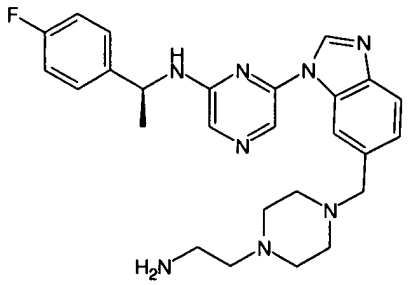
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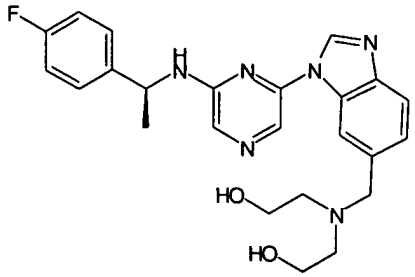
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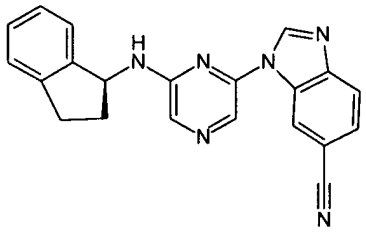
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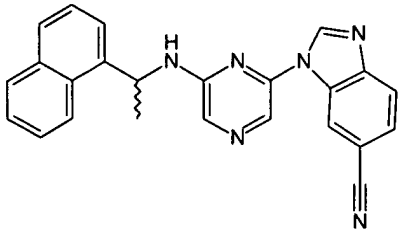
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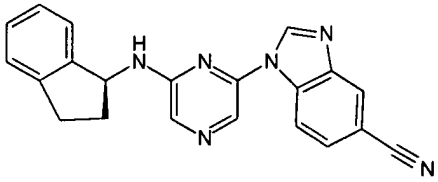
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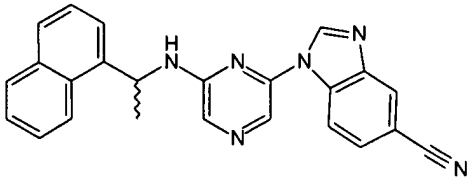
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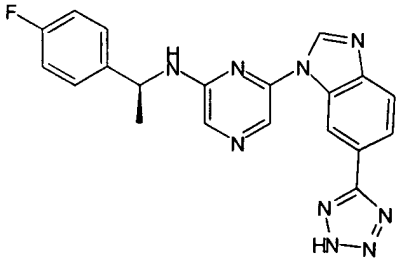
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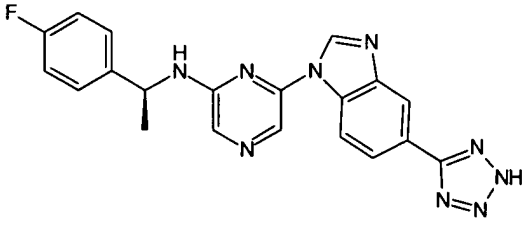
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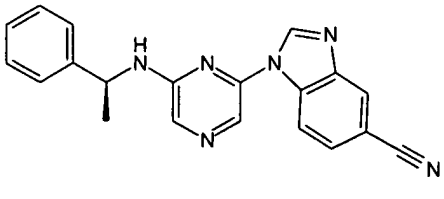
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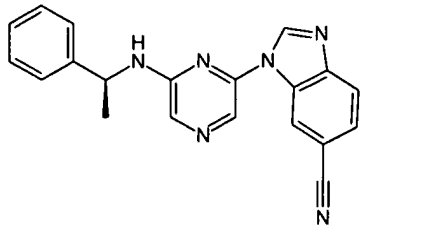
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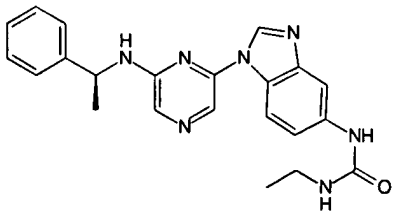
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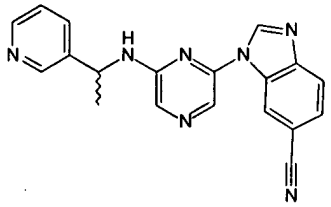
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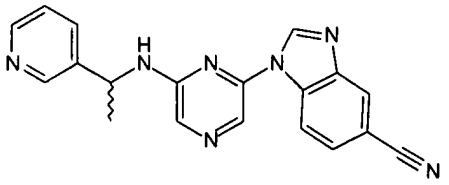
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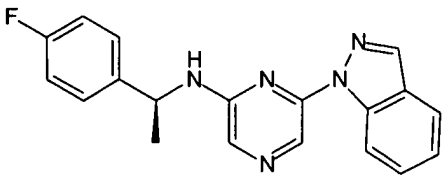
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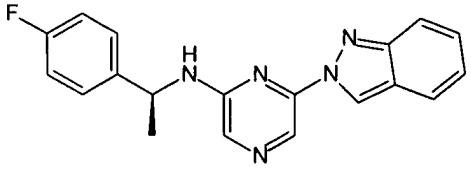
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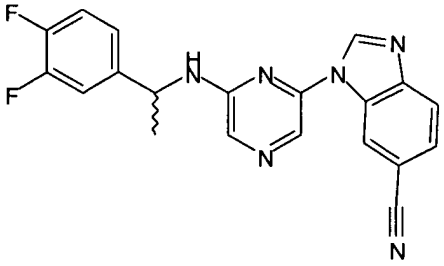
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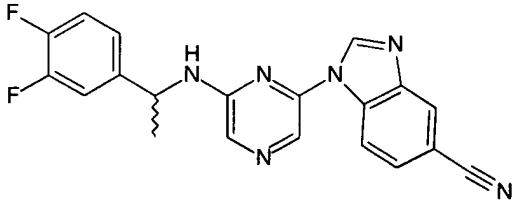
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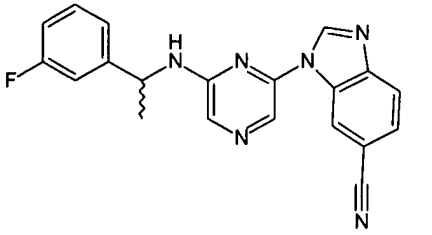
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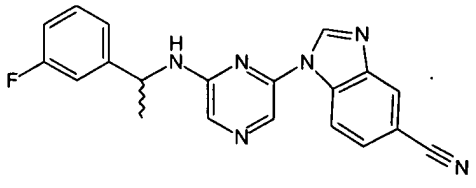
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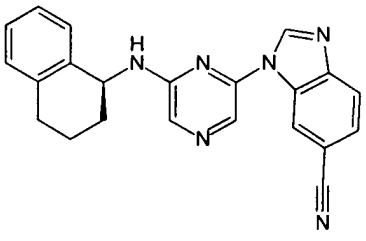
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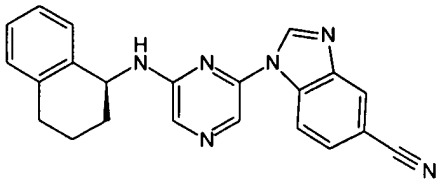
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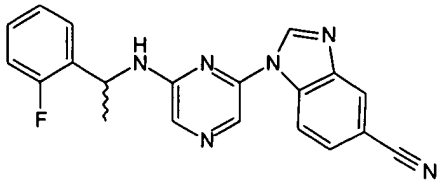
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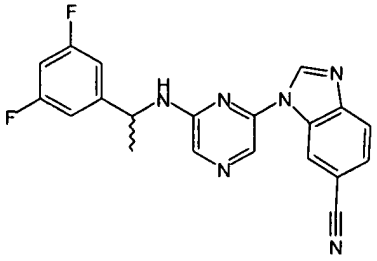
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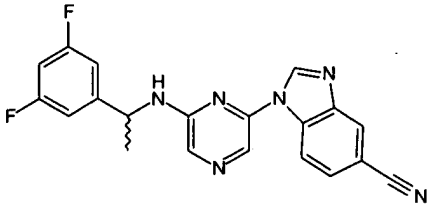
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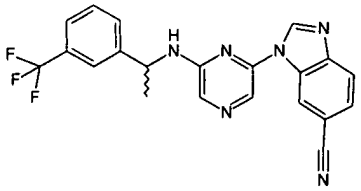
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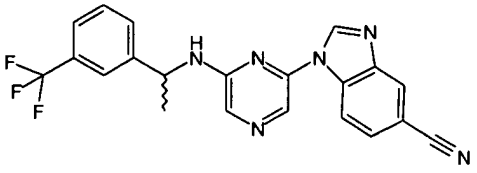
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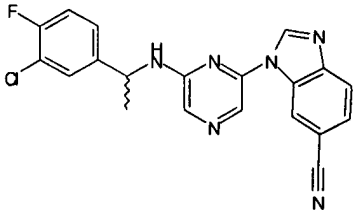
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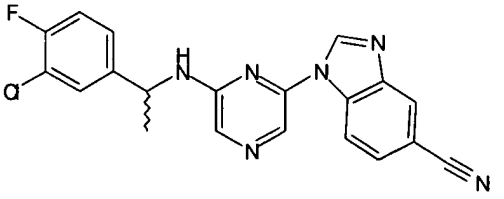
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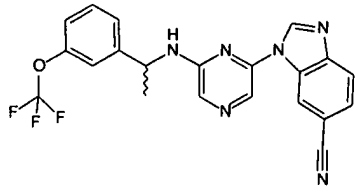
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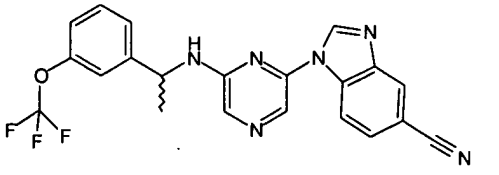
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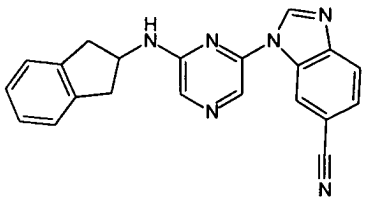
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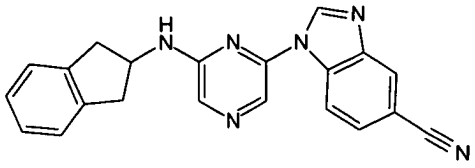
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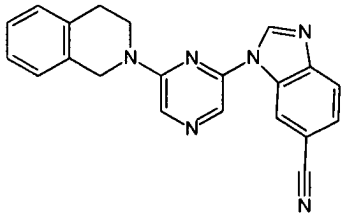
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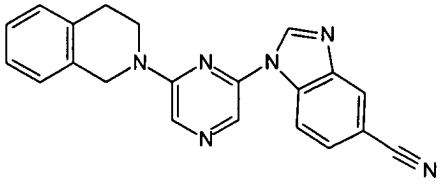
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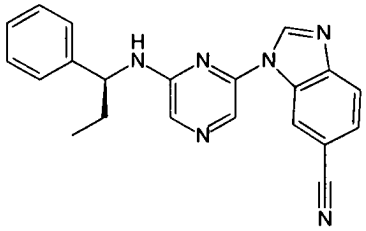
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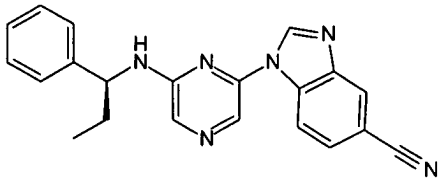
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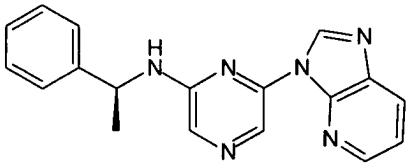
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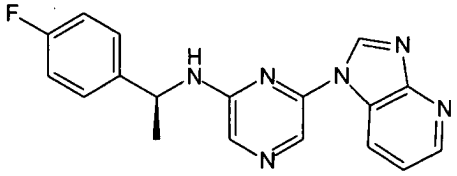
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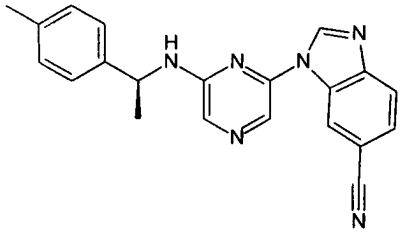
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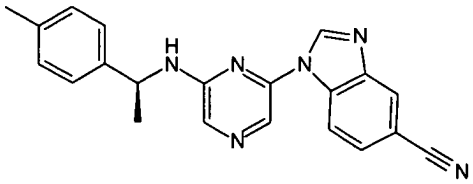
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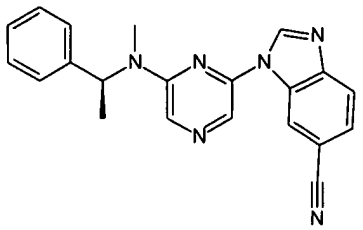
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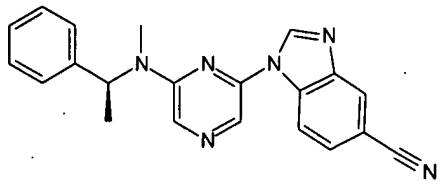
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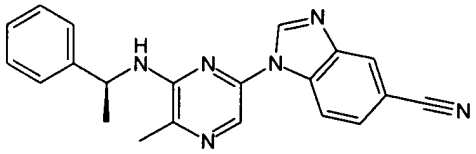
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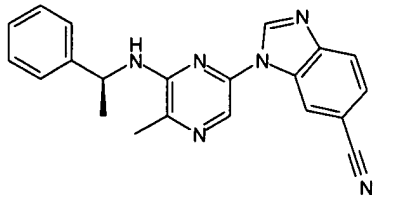
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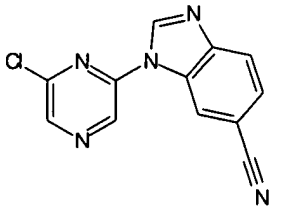
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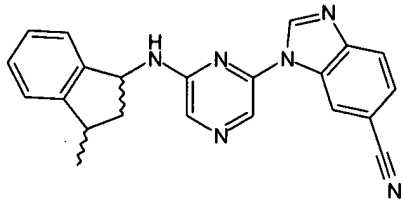
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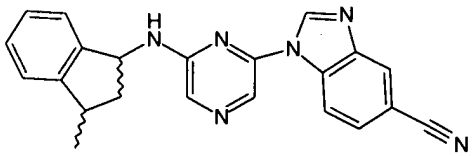
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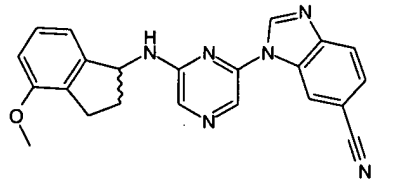
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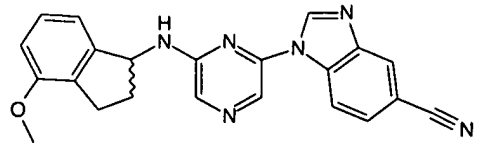
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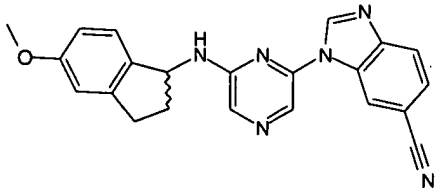
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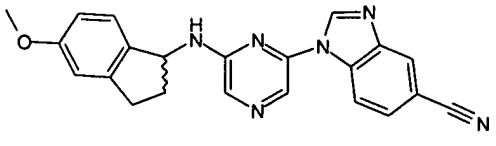
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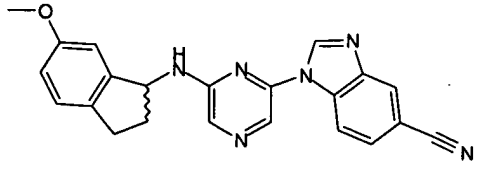
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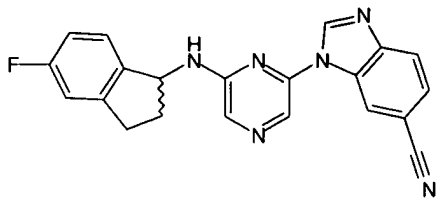
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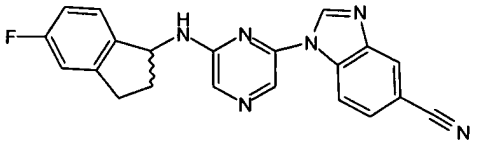
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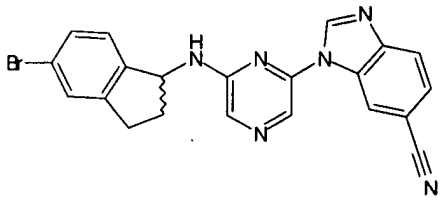
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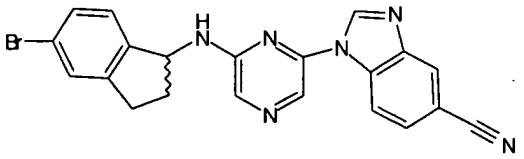
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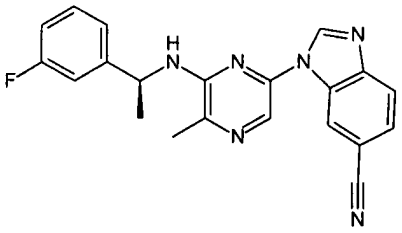
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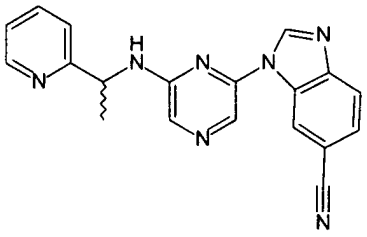
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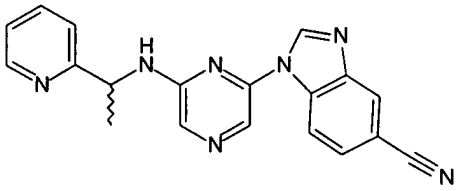


or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, or diastereomers thereof.

4. (previously presented): A compound according to formula (I) of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of

6-(1H-Benzimidazol-1-yl)-N-benzylpyrazin-2-amine,

6-(1H-Benzimidazol-1-yl)-N-[(1R)-1-phenylethyl]pyrazin-2-amine,

6-(1H-Benzimidazol-1-yl)-N-[(1S)-1-phenylethyl]pyrazin-2-amine,

1-(6-{[1-(3-Fluorophenyl)ethyl]amino}pyrazin-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxamide,

1-(6-{[1-(3-Fluorophenyl)ethyl]amino}pyrazin-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazole-6-carboxamide,

1-(6-{[1-(3-Fluorophenyl)ethyl]amino}pyrazin-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazole-6-carbonitrile,

1-[6-(3,4-Dihydroisoquinolin-2(1H)-yl)pyrazin-2-yl]-1H-benzimidazole-5-carbonitrile,

1-[6-(3,4-Dihydroisoquinolin-2(1H)-yl)pyrazin-2-yl]-1H-benzimidazole-6-carbonitrile,

1-{6-[(1S)-1,2,3,4-Tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ylamino]pyrazin-2-yl}-1H-benzimidazole-5-carbonitrile,

1-{6-[(1S)-1,2,3,4-Tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ylamino]pyrazin-2-yl}-1H-benzimidazole-6-carbonitrile,

1-(6-{[(1S)-1-Phenylethyl]amino}pyrazin-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-amine,

1-(6-{[(1S)-1-Phenylethyl]amino}pyrazin-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-amine,

N-[1-(6-{[(1S)-1-Phenylethyl]amino}pyrazin-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]-2,2-dimethylpropanamide,

N-[1-(6-{[(1S)-1-Phenylethyl]amino}pyrazin-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]acetamide,

N-[1-(6-{[(1S)-1-Phenylethyl]amino}pyrazin-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]methanesulfonamide,

2-(S-α-Methylbenzylamino)-6-(5-(N-methylpiperazin-4-yl-methyl)-benzimidazo-1-yl)-pyrazine,

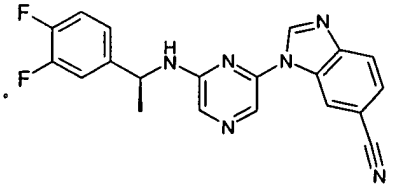
[1-(6-{[1-(4-Fluorophenyl)ethyl]amino}pyrazin-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]methanol,

[1-(6-{[1-(4-Fluorophenyl)ethyl]amino}pyrazin-2-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]methanol, and

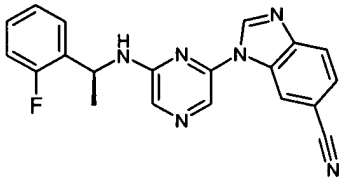
N-[1-(4-Fluorophenyl)ethyl]-6-{6-[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl}pyrazin-2-amine, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or diastereomer thereof.

5. (currently amended): The compound of claim [[3]]1, wherein said compound is:



or



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or diastereomer thereof.

6. (canceled)

7. (previously presented): A composition comprising a carrier and at least one compound according to claim 1.

8-12. (canceled)

13. (previously presented): The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is 1-2 substituents.

14. (previously presented): The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is 0 substituents and R^2 is $OCHF_2$, CN, C_{1-4} alkylOH, C_{1-4}alkylhetaryl, OC_{1-4} alkyl, OC_{1-4}alkylNR^3R^4, OC_{1-4}alkylhetaryl, or OC_{1-4} alkylOH.

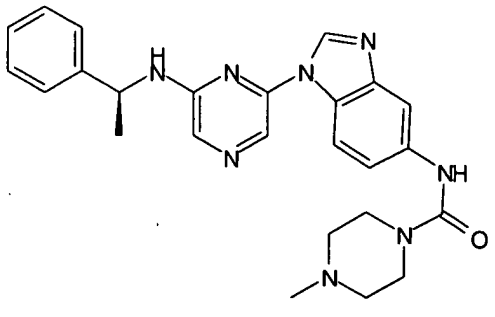
15. (previously presented): The compound of claim 1, wherein R^2 is CN.

16. (previously presented): The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 forms a 5-8 membered ring onto the ortho position of ring A.

17. (previously presented): The compound of claim 16, wherein Q is CH and W is H.

18-19. (canceled)

20. (new): A compound selected from a group consisting of:



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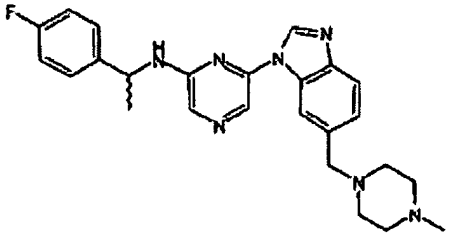

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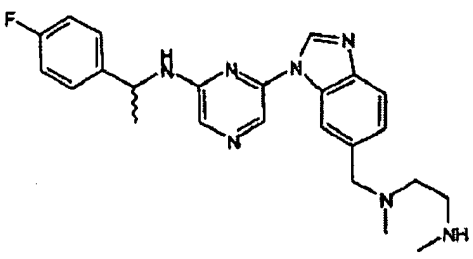
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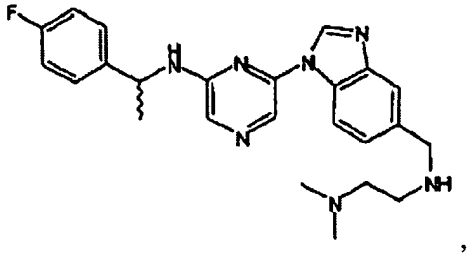
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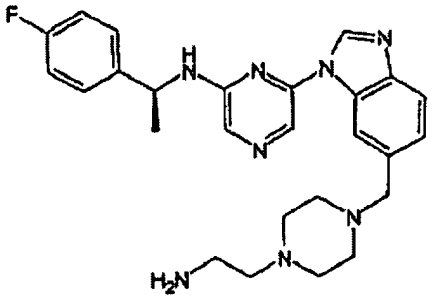
and ,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or diastereomer thereof.